

Tennessee House Bill No. 289 (Sykes, 1881 – School for the Blind)

[On cover]

HB No 289

An Act to admit colored students into the school for the Blind at Nashville and the School for the Deaf and Dumb at Knoxville in separate accommodations to be provided for them—

Int Feby 16.81

P 1st R & referred to Com on Ed & CS

Judiciary Committee

Rec—to be referred to Committee on Education & Common Schools.

Poston. [*William Fletcher Poston, a Republican representing Haywood County, was a lawyer and served as U.S. District-attorney for the Western district of Tennessee and temporary speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives; a member of Governor Robert L. Taylor's staff, he was a delegate to three national conventions.*]

Recommended for passage.

LuB Eaton, Chairman [*Lucien Bonaparte Eaton, a Republican representing Fayette and Shelby Counties, was born in New Hampshire in 1837; he served in the Union Army; a wealthy planter, he was a lawyer and the editor of the Memphis Daily Post.*]

P 3rd R Mch 20-1881

Engrossed Mar. 30th, 1881.

L. Buchanan, As't Eng. Clk.

Sykes of Davidson

The chairman is authorized to report this bill & recommend its passage.

J. M. Coulter [*James M. Coulter, party affiliation unknown, Gibson County*]

W. C. Houston [*William Cannon Houston, D, Cannon & Coffee counties*]

J. W. Baker [*John Wales Baker, R, Davidson County*]

T. F. Cassels #4 [*Thomas Frank Cassels, R, Shelby County*]

J. C. McAndrew [*Joseph C. McAndrews, R, Jefferson County*]

James Trimble [*James S. Trimble, R, Davidson County*]

W. R. Jones [*William R. Jones, D, Rutherford County*]

J. A. Manson [*James A. Manson, D, Hardeman County*]

G. H. Hash [*George H. Hash, D, Warren County*]

[Text—Note: The sections between asterisks ** have been crossed out.]

An Act to admit colored students into the school for the Blind at Nashville and the school for the Deaf and Dumb at Knoxville in separate accommodations to be prepared for them.

**** Whereas** there is now established at Nashville a school for the Blind, and at Knoxville a school for the Deaf and Dumb persons of the State, and said schools are carried on at the public expense of the State, but students of the white race only are under the present laws of the State entitled to admission in said schools since there are no separate accommodations for students of the colored race, and

Whereas the colored race constitutes about one fourth of the entire population of the State, and it is most proper and correct that the State should provide suitable schools for the blind and deaf persons of the colored race, therefore******

Section 1— Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee that the sum of ~~three thousand~~ twenty five hundred dollars is hereby appropriated for the purpose of establishing proper and suitable separate accommodations for and for the support of colored students to be admitted into the School for the Blind at Nashville, and the sum of ~~three thousand~~ dollars is hereby appropriated for establishing proper and suitable separate accommodations for and for the support of colored students to be admitted into the School for the Deaf and Dumb at Knoxville.

Section 2— Be it further enacted that, the Comptroller of the State shall draw his warrants on the Treasurer of the State, ~~to be paid in~~ for said respective sums payable to the order of the president of the Boards of Trustees of either said Schools, such warrants to be paid by the Treasurer out of any funds in his hands not other-wise appropriated.

****Section 3—** Be it further enacted that said trustees shall use the the [*sic*] herein directed to be paid to them in erecting, on the grounds ~~now~~ on which said schools are established or in purchasing other grounds if ~~them~~ it is not practicable to build on the present grounds, suitable and proper accommodations for such colored students as may be admitted under the terms prescribed in this act, provided said accommodations shall be in all respects similar and equal to the accommodations now provided for white students.******

Section 4 3— Be it further enacted that the terms of admission for said colored students unto such separate accommodations shall be the same as now prescribed for white students.

****Section 5—** Be it further enacted that the sum of _____ dollars is hereby appropriated for the maintenance of such separate accommodations for colored students admitted into said schools for the nex [*sic*] 2 ensuing years – being the sum of _____ dollars for each.******

Section 4— Be it further enacted that this act shall take effect from and after its passage the public welfare requiring it.